

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the final Office Action dated September 17, 2007 (the "Action"). Claims 1-7 and 9-22 are pending in the Application. Independent Claims 1, 17 and 20 are amended above to recite that the identification of the wireless network access point is based on stored data including the physical location or address of a wireless network and the amenities available at or near the wireless network. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraph 32 of the specification.

Claims 1-5, 9 and 11-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20040203873 to Gray (Gray) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020059453 to Eriksson et al. ("Eriksson").

Claims 6, 7 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and as being unpatentable over Gray in view Eriksson and in further view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0136949 to Barnes (Barnes).

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejections under § 103 in view of the amendments above and at least for the reasons that follow.

I. Independent Claims 1, 17 and 20 are patentable over Gray

Claim 1 recites a method for directing a mobile user to a wireless network access point including:

receiving a mobile user request for a location of a wireless network access point via a user terminal, wherein the user request comprises one or more amenities including one or more of a hotel, a restaurant, a store, a park and an airport;

identifying a geographic location of the mobile user responsive to receiving the user request; and

identifying a wireless network access point convenient to the user that provides access to the one or more amenities based on stored data including the physical location or address of a wireless network and the amenities available at or near the wireless network.

Independent Claims 17 and 20 include recitations similar to Claim 1.

The Action concedes that Grey does not disclose that the user request includes one or more amenities including one or more of a hotel, a restaurant, a store, a park and an airport. The Action takes the position that Eriksson discloses this feature in paragraph 40.

Paragraph 40 of Eriksson discusses that a user can send a request to the network for information about HiperLan networks at an airport by indicating to the network the position the communication device will have at the airport. The cited portion of Eriksson states that the network can then retrieve information regarding access points at the airport and provide this information to the user's communication device. Accordingly, Eriksson relies on user input to determine the position that the communication device would have at the airport and then retrieves information regarding access points at the airport. As such, Applicants submit that Eriksson does not disclose or render obvious identifying a wireless network access point convenient to the user that provides access to the one or more amenities based on stored data including the physical location or address of a wireless network and the amenities available at or near the wireless network as recited in independent Claims 1, 17 and 20.

As discussed, for example, in paragraph 32 of the current application, information about various wireless networks, including the physical location or address of a particular wireless network and the amenities available at or near the wireless network, can be stored in the network data 262. This information can be used to identify a wireless network access point convenient to the user that provides access to the amenities. Accordingly, the data 262 can correlate the physical location or address of a particular wireless network and the amenities available at or near the wireless network. This feature and the advantages associated therewith are not contemplated by Eriksson and Grey.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Claims 1, 17 and 20 and Claims 2-7, 9-16 and 21-22 depending therefrom are patentable over Grey and Eriksson. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejections under § 103 be withdrawn.

II. Claim 10 is separately patentable over Gray

Claim 10 depends from Claim 1 and is patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. In addition, Claim 10 is separately patentable for at least the reasons that follow.

Claim 10 as amended recites as follows:

the user request includes a particular service provider associated with the wireless network, wherein identifying a wireless network access point further comprises identifying a wireless network access point provided by the particular service provider.

Barnes discloses selecting a communication system based on availability and cost. See pages 6-7 of the Action. However, as noted in Applicants' paper of January 4, 2007, Barnes does not disclose a user request that includes a particular service provider. The user request includes a particular service provider so that, in some embodiments, users can choose a particular service provider of an identified wireless network access convenient to the user. Applicants submit that there is no reason to modify Barnes (which merely proposes characteristics such as availability and cost) to include this feature, and that Claim 10 is therefore separately patentable over Gray and/or Barnes for at least these reasons.

However, if the rejection of Claim 10 is maintained, Applicants respectfully request that the specific rationale regarding how Barnes is alleged to disclose a user request that includes a particular service provider be provided in any subsequent action.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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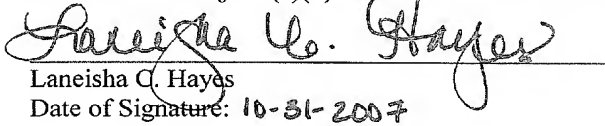
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Attorney Docket No. 9400-44
Application Serial No. 10/646,962
Filed: August 25, 2003
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 31, 2007.


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Date of Signature: 10-31-2007